

Springdale Fire Department

Policy & Procedures Manual

Volume 2 – Operations

Section 201 – Personnel Safety

201.1 – Incident Hazard Zones

The purpose of this policy is to identify zones (geographical areas), appropriate personal protective clothing and equipment level needs, and to ensure personnel accountability. Personnel operating within the following hazard zones shall comply with protective equipment requirements and will be tracked through the use of the department accountability system.

Hot Zone (Exclusion): Area(s) where the highest risks to personnel safety exist. The hot zone may be defined initially as the perimeter of the closest apparatus to the incident. The hot zone is also defined through the use of red hazard barrier tape.

All personnel operating in the Hot Zone must wear PPE appropriate to the hazard and be certified to operate at the technician level (if applicable) for the particular hazard type. Operations conducted in the hot zone should be performed with two person crews as a minimum.

Red hazard barrier tape shall never be crossed without direct consent of the incident commander, operations officer, or incident safety officer.

Warm Zone (Hazard Reduction): Area(s) where limited risks to personnel safety are present. The warm zone is defined as the area between the hot zone and the cold zone. The warm zone is where activities such as back-up crew staging, decontamination, equipment/tool staging are typically located.

All personnel operating in the Warm Zone must wear PPE appropriate to the hazard and be certified to operate at the operations level (if applicable) for the particular hazard type.

Cold Zone (Support): Area(s) where minimal or no personnel risks are identified. The cold zone is defined as the area between the warm zone and the incident scene perimeter. The outer boundary of the cold zone (incident perimeter) may be identified through the use of yellow fire line barrier tape.

The cold zone is where incident support activities such as the Command Post, rehabilitation, support personnel staging are located.